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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/586,053 Confirmation No. 2443
Applicant(s) : Friedrich BOECKING
Filed : July 14, 2006
TC/A.U. : 3752
Docket No. : R.306611
Customer No. : 02119

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: May 9, 2007

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(b),
AND EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE OF THE CITED PRIOR ART**

Sir:

The undersigned hereby requests that the prior art cited on the attached prior art statement be placed of record in the application file and be considered by the examiner.

This citation of prior art is made under 37 CFR 1.97(b), since it is being filed before the mailing date of the First Office Action.

The relevance of the prior art cited on the attached form PTO/SB/08a is as follows:

EP 0 218 895 A1

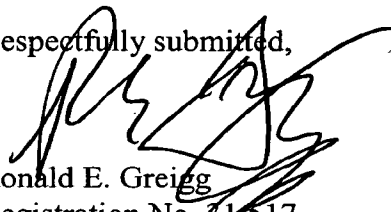
This patent shows a metering valve which includes a piezoelectric cylinder connected via a spring biased needle to a valving element for closing a metering opening. To compensate for slow changes in the length of the piezoelectric control member, there is a damping piston connected axially to the piezoelectric member and being movable in a well formed in the valve housing and defining with the end face of the piston a damping chamber.

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Prior to First Office Action

A tubular membrane surrounds a portion of the damping piston and is attached to the piezoelectric member and to an inner wall of the housing around the opening of the well to define with the piston an annular equalizing space. The damping and equalizing spaces are filled with liquid and communicate with one another via a narrow throttling gap formed between facing walls of the well and of the piston.

Examination of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures
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